What is claimed is:

1. A communication interface device for managing wireless data
    communications between an in-vehicle device installed in a vehicle and a
    plurality of global network based data processing resources, said
    communication interface device being located external to said vehicle
    comprising;

    a wireless transceiver for wirelessly data communicating between said in-
    vehicle device and said communication interface device;

    a plurality of communication interfaces for data communicating between said
    communication interface device and said plurality of global network based
    data processing resources; and

    a memory interconnected with a microprocessor for managing data
    communication data flow including caching received data communications
    from said wireless transceiver, or from said plurality of communication
    interfaces, and for data, or protocol conversion between said wireless
    transceiver, and said plurality of communication means;

    wherein, data communicated between said in-vehicle device and said wireless
    transceiver is processed, and routed by said microprocessor to said plurality of
    communication means for data communication to said plurality of global
    network based data processing resources;

wherein, data communicated between said plurality of communication interfaces is processed, and routed by said microprocessor to said wireless transceiver for data communication to said in-vehicle device;

wherein, said in-vehicle device data communicates, by way of said communication interface, with said plurality of global network based data processing resources.

2. The communication interface device in accordance with claim 1 wherein, said plurality of communication interfaces includes at least one of the following communication interface types: a universal serial bus port, a personal data assistant interface, an RS232 interface, an RS485 interface, a carrier current interface, a network connection to the Internet, a modem interface, a wireless modem interface, a cellular phone transceiver, a cellular phone interface, a wireless data link, or a local area network interface.

3. The communication interface device in accordance with claim 1 wherein, said plurality of interfaces is an interface to a personal computer, said personal computer having data communication access to said plurality of global network based data processing resources, such that said in-vehicle device, by way of said interface to said personal computer, data communicates with said personal computer, and data communicates with said plurality of global network based data processing resources.

4. The communication interface device in accordance with claim 1 wherein, said plurality of global network based data processing resources includes a personal computer, said plurality of interfaces is an interface to said personal computer;

wherein, said communication interface device data communicates with a programmable storage device, or a personal data assistant, said programmable storage device, or said personal data assistant being programmable by said personal computer, or by said plurality of global network based data processing resources having data communication access to said personal computer, or said in-vehicle device.

5. The communication interface device in accordance with claim 1 wherein, said communication interface device is an internet appliance device.

6. The communication interface device in accordance with claim 1 wherein, said communication interface device is interconnected with at least one of the following: garage door opener, gas pump, toll booth, change toll booth, wireless toll-pass system, traffic light pole, traffic light, parking gate, parking terminal, a store display, an internet appliance device, or a vehicle analyzer.

7. A method of monitoring the location of a vehicle equipped with an in-vehicle device, said in-vehicle device wirelessly data communicates with a plurality of global network based data processing resources wherein, wireless data communication between said in-vehicle device and said plurality of global network based data processing resources is facilitated by a communication interface device comprising the steps of:

from said communication interface device client side:

a) receiving a data communication at said communication interface device from said in-vehicle device, said data communication occurring when said in-vehicle device is in wireless proximity with said communication interface device;

14

15 b) routing said data communication to said plurality of global network based

16 data processing resources;

17

18 c) receiving a plurality of return data as required from said plurality of global

19 network based data processing resources;

20

21 d) communicating wirelessly said plurality of return data to said in-vehicle

22 device;

23

24 from the plurality of global network based data processing resources server

25 side:

26

27 e) identifying said data communication received from said communication

28 interface device;

29

30 f) modifying a vehicle location database, said vehicle location database being

31 located on at least one of said global network based data processing resources;

32

33 g) determining appropriate said plurality of return data; and

34

35 h) communicating said plurality of return data to said communication

36 interface device for wireless data communication to said in-vehicle device.

37

1 8. The method of monitoring the location of a vehicle in accordance with claim 7

2 wherein, the step of receiving return data includes receiving command and

3 control data from said plurality of global network based data processing

4 resources, wherein command and control data can include enabling or

5 disabling operation of said vehicle.

6

1   9. The method of monitoring the location of a vehicle in accordance with claim 7

2   wherein, said communication interface device is an internet appliance device.

3

1   10. The method of monitoring the location of a vehicle in accordance with claim 7

2   . wherein, the step of modifying a vehicle location database includes modifying

3   a vehicle location database for at least one of the following applications:

4   regulating attendance based on said vehicle entry to, or exit from a parking

5   area through a parking gate or parking terminal, enabling or disabling

6   operation of said vehicle when said vehicle passes in wireless proximity to

7   said communication interface device, said vehicle route or trip progress

8   tracking, calculating said vehicle rate of speed between a plurality of

9   checkpoints each of said plurality of checkpoints being equipped with said

10   communication interface device, or calculating said vehicle rate of speed

11   between said plurality of checkpoints each of said plurality of checkpoints

12   being equipped with said communication interface device for the purpose of

13   identifying speeders and issuing speeding tickets.

14

1   11. A method of data communicating between a wireless device and an in-vehicle

2   device installed in a vehicle, wherein said wireless device, by way of said in-

3   vehicle device, communicates with a plurality of global network based data

4   processing resources, or accesses said in-vehicle device data comprising the

5   steps of:

6

7   a) initiating data communication between said wireless device and said in- .

8   vehicle device;

9

10   b) allowing said wireless device to access data stored within said in-vehicle

11   device or accessible by said in-vehicle device;

12

13   c) routing said wireless device data to a communication interface device, said

14   communication interface device having data communication access to a

15   plurality of global network base data processing resources;

16

17   d) receiving a plurality of return data as required from said plurality of global

18   network based data processing resources;

19

20   e) communicating said plurality of return data to said in-vehicle device by

21   way of said communication interface device; and

22

23   f) routing said plurality of return data received at said in-vehicle device to said

24   wireless device.

25

1   12. The method of data communicating between a wireless device and an in-

2   vehicle device in accordance with claim 11 wherein, the step of allowing said

3   wireless device to access data stored in said in-vehicle device or accessible by

4   said in-vehicle device includes allowing said wireless device to access at least

5   one of the following: said vehicle operational status, said vehicle telemetry

6   data, said vehicle metric data, said in-vehicle device memory, said in-vehicle

7   device stored digital content including audio data, video data, data files, said

8   in-vehicle device settings, or said vehicle or said in-vehicle device system

9   preferences.

10

1   13. The method of data communicating between a wireless device and an in-

2   vehicle device in accordance with claim 11 wherein, said wireless device is at

3   least one of the following: a wireless phone, a personal data assistant, a pager,

4   a pocket sized personal computer, an internet appliance device, or a

5   programmable data storage device.

6

14. The method of data communicating between a wireless device and an in-
    vehicle device in accordance with claim 11 wherein, said wireless device data
    communicates with said in-vehicle device by way of at least one of the
    following methods: hard wired connection, infrared connection,
    BLUETOOTH standard and protocol, or WIRELESS APPLICATION
    PROTOCOL and standard.

15. The method of data communicating between a wireless device and an in-
    vehicle device in accordance with claim 11 wherein, said communication
    interface device is an internet appliance device.

16. The method of data communicating between a wireless device and an in-
    vehicle device in accordance with claim 11 wherein, said communication
    interface device is interconnected with an internet appliance device.

17. A method of servicing a vehicle including procuring automotive replacement
    parts from a communication interface device, said communication interface
    device being accessible by a customer, said communication interface device
    being located in an auto parts store, an auto parts area, a vehicle service
    center, or a vehicle sales center comprising the steps of:

    a) allowing said customer to interact with said communication interface
    device;

    b) accessing digital content to aid said customer in a plurality of products
    selection, wherein accessing digital content includes accessing local digital
    content or databases, or remote global network based data processing
    resources including remote digital content or databases;

14

15   c) presenting digital content to said customer, including digital content related

16   to said plurality of products;

17

18   d) allowing said customer to physically select at least one of said plurality of

19   products based in part on digital content presented to said customer from on-

20   hand inventory;

21

22   e) determining, through customer interaction with said communication

23   interface device, if said customer successfully physically selected at least one

24   of said plurality of products from on-hand inventory;

25

26   f) allowing as required said customer to order any one or more of said

27   plurality of products by way of said communication interface device; and

28

29   g) effectuating as required an e-commerce, or e-business transaction to fulfill

30   said customer's order.

31

1   18. The method of servicing a vehicle in accordance with claim 17 further

2   comprising the step of:

3

4   a) charging a plurality of fees for digital content and services.

5

1   19. The method of servicing a vehicle in accordance with claim 18 wherein, the

2   step of charging a plurality of fees for digital content and services includes

3   charging for at least one of the following: distributing said plurality of digital

4   content, for royalty payments, for service fees, for download charge, for

5   network time, for digital content access, time utilized charge, or for

6   facilitating an e-commerce or e-business transaction.

7

20. The method of servicing a vehicle in accordance with claim 17 wherein, the

2 step of allowing a user to interact with said communication interface device

3 includes at least one of the following interactions: transferring data between a

4 wireless device and said communication interface device, or manually

5 interacting with said communication interface device through voice

6 recognition, biometric recognition, keypad, general purpose said

7 communication interface device input or output, or touch screen input.

8

1 21. The method of servicing a vehicle in accordance with claim 20 wherein, said

2 wireless device is at least one of the following: a wireless phone, a personal

3 data assistant, a pager, a pocket sized personal computer, an internet appliance

4 device, or a programmable data storage device.

5

1 22. A method of using a wireless device to transfer data between an in-vehicle

2 device installed in a vehicle and a personal computer located external to said

3 vehicle, said personal computer being interconnected with a communication

4 interface device, said personal computer data communicates with said wireless

5 device by way of said communication interface device comprising the steps

6 of:

7

8 a) initiating a data communication between said wireless device and said in-

9 vehicle device;

10

11 b) transferring data between said wireless device and said in-vehicle device

12 wherein, transferring data includes transferring data related to at least one of

13 the following: data related to said vehicle, data related to said in-vehicle

14 device, data related to said wireless device, data from said personal computer

15 previously stored in said wireless device, or data from a plurality of global

16   network based data processing resources previously stored within said

17   wireless device or accessible by said wireless device;

18

19   c) transporting said wireless device to a physical location external to said

20   vehicle and in wireless proximity to said communication interface device

21   wherein, data communication between said wireless device and said

22   communication interface device can occur;

23

24   d) initiating a data communication between said wireless device and said

25   communication interface device; and

26

27   e) transferring data between said wireless device and said personal computer

28   by way of said communication interface device wherein, transferring data

29   includes transferring data related to at least one of the following: data related

30   to said vehicle, data related to said in-vehicle device, data related to said

31   wireless device, data stored within said wireless device or accessible by said

32   wireless device including transferring data between said wireless device and

33   said plurality of global network based data processing resources.

34

1   23. The method of using a wireless device to transfer data in accordance with

2   claim 22 wherein, said wireless device is at least one of the following: a

3   wireless phone, a personal data assistant, a pager, a pocket sized personal

4   computer, an internet appliance device, or a programmable data storage

5   device.

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